

VZCZCXRO2243
PP RUEHFK
DE RUEHK #0804 0980739
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
P 080739Z APR 09
FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO
TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2143
RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
RUCPDOC/USDOC WASHDC PRIORITY
RUEATRS/DEPT OF TREASURY WASHINGTON DC PRIORITY
RUYNAAAC/COMNAVFORJAPAN YOKOSUKA JA PRIORITY
RHMMUNA/HQ USPACOM HONOLULU HI PRIORITY
RHMMHBA/COMPACFLT PEARL HARBOR HI//N541// PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/HQ PACAF HICKAM AFB HI//CC/PA// PRIORITY
RUHBANB/OKINAWA FLD OFC US FORCES JAPAN CP BUTLER JA PRIORITY
RHMFIUU/USFJ PRIORITY
INFO RUEHFK/AMCONSUL FUKUOKA 3417
RUEHOK/AMCONSUL OSAKA KOBE 7213
RUEHB/AMEMBASSY BEIJING 8691
RUEHMO/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 2801
RUEHUL/AMEMBASSY SEOUL 4717
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK 4556
RHEHAAA/NSC WASHDC

UNCLAS TOKYO 000804

SIPDIS

STATE FOR I/RF, PA/PR/FPC/W, IIP/G/EA, EAP/PD, R/MR,
EAP/J, EAP/P, PM;
USTR FOR PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE;
TREASURY FOR OASIA/IMI;
SECDEF FOR OASD/PA;
CP BUTLER OKINAWA FOR AREA FIELD OFFICE;
PACOM HONOLULU FOR PUBLIC DIPLOMACY ADVISOR

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: OIIP KMDR KPAO JA
SUBJECT: TOKYO MEDIA REACTION - PRESIDENT OBAMA'S VISIT
TO EUROPE AND TURKEY

¶1. LEAD STORIES: All Wednesday morning national dailies front-paged a photo released on Tuesday by a DPRK news agency showing Sunday's launch of what appeared to be a Taepodong II missile.

¶2. "Paramount Homework Left for President Obama" On the completion of President Obama's tour in Europe and Turkey, the liberal Tokyo Shimbun editorialized (4/8): "President Obama's ambitious diplomatic goals of abolishing nuclear weapons and holding dialogue with the Islamic world commanded strong attention. His message on these fronts received enthusiastic support from audiences.... The emerging momentum for U.S. dialogue with the Islamic world should be upheld."

¶3. "Obama Keen to Restore International Trust in U.S." A correspondent for the liberal Mainichi reported from Istanbul (4/8): "During his stay in Turkey, President Obama spoke on specific steps toward 'reconciliation with Muslims' and hence made it clear a new U.S. approach toward the Islamic world. Restoring trust in the U.S. among Muslims is one of the most important agenda items for the Obama administration. His phrase of 'mutual interest and mutual understanding' will be tested."

¶4. "Obama Successful in Resetting Alliance" The top-circulation, moderate Yomiuri stated (4/8): "It is certain that President Obama's 'frank' admission of U.S. responsibility for the global financial crisis has significantly altered European views toward America. However, it appeared that the President stopped short of insisting on U.S. viewpoints on some key issues, such as on how to restore worldwide economic growth, in order to avoid confrontation with the Europeans."

ZUMWALT